fcities *of high* level wastes from nuolear fuel cycle activities.

(vi) Launchng of pubic awareness programmes to inform the public about nuclear power in general and safety and environmental protection measures in particular.

Implementation of Abid Hussain Commitlieie's recommendation ' on CSIR Laboratories

140. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to implement Abid Hussain Committee's recommendations with regard to CSIR laboratories;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for shelving the report; and

(d) what are the major thrusts of the recommendations of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) The recommendations of the Abid Hussain Committee with regard to the CSIR laboratories have been implemented as finally accepted and approved by CSIR Society in the light of the observations made by SAC-PM thereon.

(b) These recommendations per tained to:

•Restructurig of laboratories.

•Performance review of selected laboratories.

•Re-natning of Regional Research Laboratories. ,

'Transfer of some laboratories to 'user Government Departments/ Ministries/Departments.

•Divesting of Field/Extension/Regional Centres of laboratoriea

•Merger of two laboratories.

•Management and evaluation struc tures,

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The major thrust of the recommendations was to restructure the CSIR and its laboratories to enable greater participation of user Government departments/Agencies and potential clients in policy formulation, idendification/formulation of R&D programmes, project management and funding etc. and also to give tbe laboratories the adequate autonomy and flexibility of operations to turn out more user responsive and market oriented research results.

Oil exploration at Dakshin Gangotri In Antarctica

141. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the PRIME[1] MINISTER be pleased *to* state:

(a) whether it is a feet that oil exploration will be taken up at Dakshin Gangotri in Antarctica;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whethe'r some preliminary studies have been conducted there; and

(d) if so, whether these indicate commecrcial possibilities of oil production in the area?

THE MTNISTER) OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON)': (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has associated its Geo-Scientists in the 3rd, 4th and 6th Scientific Expeditions to cany out studies in Dakshin Gangotri area for possible hydrocarbon accumulation. The information so far collected in this area is Wot yet sufficient for a decision On undertaking oil exploration.